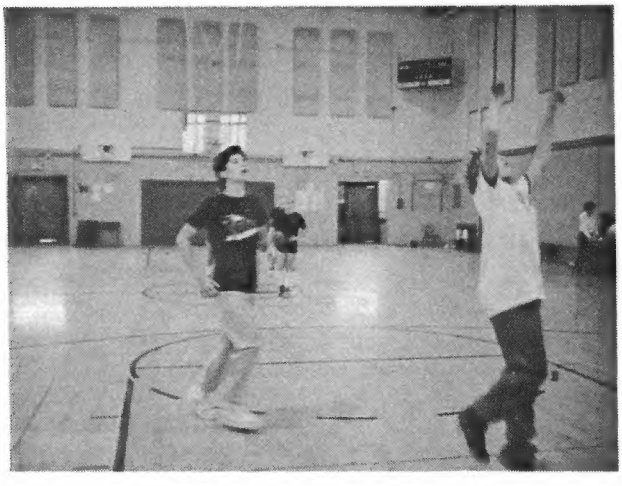
MIDDLE SCHOOL GOOD TIMES

Volume 12, #3 December 1985 Paw Paw Middle School 25¢

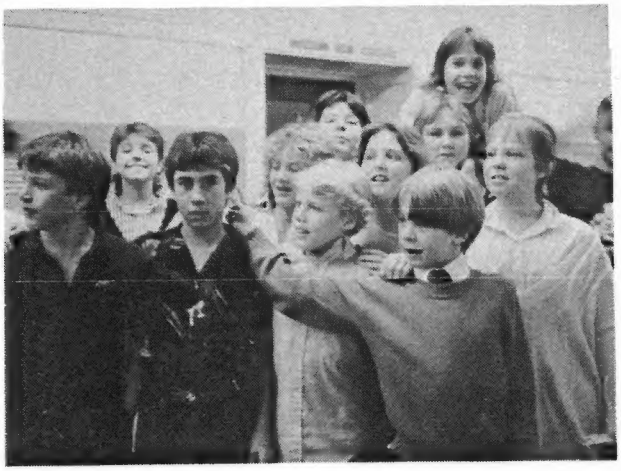
Pictured above is the middle school choir in concert November 26.

Th choir presented a Christmas concert last week and an assembly this Tuesday under the direction of Mr. Fred Sang.

Actively practicing for their interscholastic games are the 7th and 8th grade boys who play a rough schedule this year. See p.4 for the schedule and the list of team members.



'Tis the season to be jolly. Several middle schoolers took the cue and smiled, giggled and carried on for the camera at the December dance In the pictures below are dozens of happy partiers.



More students are seen below decking the halls.

Merry Christmas to you from the staff.

LynnUtter, Janise Overton, Colleen Bos, Marc Nelson, Angie Meeker, Kymm Herring Tara Twardowski,Wendy Reinoehl, Shannon Buhl, Vicki Allgaier, Michelle Kelly, Julisa Garcia, Mari Cooper &Gina B sten

Christmas is Near

Sugar cookies in the oven,
Snow gracefully floating to the ground
Christmas time is near.

Snowmen standing guard in yards,
Small mittens forming forts of snow,
Christmas time is near.

Neon-like lights flash on trees,
Carols sung, wreathes are hung,
Christmas time is near.

Church services attended
Manger is set and lighted,
Christmas time is here.

k.carpenter

Senses of Christmas

Christmas sounds like bells in the sky,
Christmas'sight is all white and bright
Christmas smells like the fresh air of winter.
Christmas tastes like a warm dinner in the evening.
Christmas feels like trees bristling with decorations.

l.charlier

For sale-
Set of bunk beds, white frame- no mattresses
$50. Call 657-6588

"As life goes on"

All the children whine and cry
Does anyone care?
Some teens smoke and drink
Does anyone care?
Full-grown men and women rob, beat, kill
Is that a way of life?
Does anyone care?
If everyone did his share
We would know- people care.
And when you're gone, you won't regret.

t. rumbaugh

Winter's Coming

It's autumn now and it's cold outside. The geese are flying with their wings spread wide.

The trees are full of color with orange , yellow, wine and brown , all done up like a colorful crown.

The leaves float down so gracefully. They'll be laid to rest formally.

Soon it will snow. The ground will be white. You'll hear the sound of snowball fights.

Kids are all happy for it's almost Christmas. They're putting up lights that hang so bright.

The people stare admiring the beauty.

The children play on hills each day, falling and running and playing so gay.

It's almost time. The presents are arranged - kids wait to see their new things.

Tomorrow morning. I can't wait. Let's go to bed so it won't come late.

p. sult

Christmas Morning

Sunlight came in, the birds a-singing
Morning has come - what's the day bringing?
Quiet and still yet a hum to my room
Nothing about the day that I can assume.
I yawn, I stretch, I widen my eyes
Only to find an amazing surprise.
It is Christmas morning.

s. buhl

HANUKKAH

What is Hanukkah? It is the Jewish Festival of Lights or Feast of Dedication. The Hebrew word "Hanukkah" means dedication. During Hanukkah, gifts are ex- p.3

Hanukkah continued...

changed and contributions are made to the poor. Each evening one additional candle is lighted on the menorah, a candle holder. By the last night all eight candles are bunring brightly representing the historic event when the lamp of the Maccabees never ran out of oil for eight days.

WHAT'S HOT? WHAT'S NOT.

What's hot and what is not continues in this issue of the Good Times.

Pumps are hot
Moon boots are not

Sweaters are hot
Fluorescents are not.

Rob Lowe is hot
Boy George is not.

Lamborghinis are hot
Station wagons are not.

Hot pink is hot
Puce is not.

Paw Paw Redskins' coats are hot,
Plain is not.

m.k & c.b.

MEET MRS. SMITH-RM.103

Mrs. Anne Smith was the topic of the faculty interviews this month.

She has been teaching at this school for five years. Before that she was at Black River and had also taught in this buildigg before that.

Her hobbies include any sports, bridge, reading and traveling, which is her most favorite.

She would be healthy, wealthy and successful if she could be anything. She would like to own a Rolls Royce. A striped golf skirt is her favorite piece of clothing.

She said her picture of the perfect student would be Janise Overton when she was in 6th grade, whom she remembers as hardworking and fun to be with.

This reporter thanks Mrs. Smith for the compliment .

j.o.

Should Records Have Labels?

The topic of the opinion column this month is labeling of record albums and tapes.

Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Gore, wife of Senator Gore of Tennesee, has led the fight to get such labels on records. The Good Times writer takes a stand on the issue and that position represents only the columnist's view, not that of the entire paff.

I think that we , as young people,should be able to buy a record or tape or to see movie without there being a rating on it. I think our parents have taught us to be responsible and by now, we know what our limits are wtihout mom and dad being there telling us "yes" or "no" about our choices. Do we put labels on what they hear or see? Do we tell them what books to read? And we all know that they read somethings that are pretty gross and then tell us we can't listen to that record or tape because the artist used a dirty word. Many of us have heard those terms and all those concepts in other places at other times apart from records and movies.

It wouldn't be so bad if they only would back off a bit. They will be labeling all records and tapes since Mrs. Gore's success. Should she dictate? Should anyone? I don't think so. There will always be a dislike/like gap between young people and adults. Labels won't help bridge that gap.

j. overton

Boys' Basketball Begins

The intramural basketball season has started once again. This year's teams, seventh and eighth, consist of twenty eughth graders and twenty seventh graders. The two teams usually practice everyday except FRiday.

The teams are divided into an A and a B squad. The eighth grade A squad consists of Heath Beckstrom, KevinBlakley, Lonny Boley, Jason Coffman, Jeff Crouse, Andy Lumm, Mike Makowski, Jonathan Njus and Rob Williams.

The B squad includes Chris Brill, Billy Carter, Chris Frank, Dan Fuller, Nathan Labadie, Marc Nelson, Joey Pacula, Kevin Taylor, Kirk Warner and Greg Woodhams.

The seventh grade A aqyad consists of Brett Baney ,Scott Bielecki, Brian Carter, Fred Frimand, Brett Herwick, Brian Meyer, Shelton Mitchell, Kris Nelson, Ricky Yarbrough, and Jeff Betzner.

The B squad includes Troy Barnett, Miles Blakley, Philip Blakley, Jeremy Brautigam, Gary Imus, Bill McNeil, Matt Quantz, Kerry Rogers, and Chris Stratton.

SCHEDULE

The game schedule for the month of January is as follows:
Jan. 9- S.Christian-
Jan. 13- E. Christian
January 22- N.Christian
January 27- S. Christian

For February the schedule:
Febraary 3- Galesburg/Augusta
February 5- St. Monica

League Tournament-
Feb. 10-13, 17 and 19. Dates places and times to be announced.

Good luck fellas !

MORE BIRTHDAYS....
Nathan Labadie- Dec. 22
Teelina Rumbaugh- Jan. 28
Brett Henson- Dec. 22

Pack Rats-Their Habits

How do pack rats pack? Pack ratting is an art. Not many people long ago had the pleasure of filling their homes or bedrooms with junk. But now it is true , more and more people are collecting junk from Cracker Jack and other sources such as sereal boxes. This, I think, evolved because these pack ratters lived ina clean home as young children. They were told to clean their messy rooms and to help with chores. Now the pack ratters are free and choose to break all their parents' rules. This has got progressively worse over the years because the children are learning from their parents.

Pack rats can be found almost anywhere. You most likely can detect them them at flea markets and garage sales. They act very suspecious and carry large bags with them. After the rats get home, they unload their goodies and display them in a huge mass on a shelf. Or,else tehy may put their goodies into boxes and barricade the closet while sitting nearby cautiously watching their precious merchandise lest burglars should arrive. This form of pack ratting can be serious and should be approached with complete caution. What can we do to stop this mania?

a. scotese

Happy Birthday !

Happy December and January birthdays to the following:
Christy Olsen- Dec. 19
Rosa Varnesdeel- Dec. 20
Shanna Himes - Dec.27
Becky Burge -Dec. 29
Angel Stewart- Dec. 19
Tanya Johnson- Jan. 16
Jason Lyon - Dec. 11
Kim Anderson- Dec. 27
Nic Grichowski- Dec . 11
Kymm Herring- Dec.5
Kelli Carpenter- Dec. 5
Robbie Davies- Dec. 19
Chantel Pitcher- Dec. 6
Jennifer Gustin- Dec. 30

Brian Gates- Dec. 30 seep.5

MORE BIRTHDAYS...

Becky Ballard- Jan.20
Angie Moorian- Jan. 9
Jenny Bergeson- Jan. 12
Richard Stewart- Jan. 30
Steve Hamacher- Dec. 13
Tony Pechar- Dec. 9
Nathan Bedecs- Jan.5
David Quick- Jan. 12
Matt Forster- Dec. 19
Michelle Kelly- Dec. 31
Patti Sult- Jan. 7

Dear Sam,

Dear Sam,

My problem is I don't want to live with my mom. I want to live with my dad. I don't want to live with her. I want to live with him be cause he loves me more.

pencil

Dear Pen,

You may think your mother does not love you as much because you are living with her. She has to clothe you, feed you and keep a roof over your head, and love you. Your dad may only have to be with you at cer tain times when you may both be on your best behavior. He then has time to take you places and play with you.He doesn't have to worry about when you go out or come in, who you hang around with or what to feed you. He only has you for a short while. Try to be in your mother's shoes for once. Feel how it might feel to be her. See that sometimes the things the parent we live with has to ask us to do may seem less than fun and may seem like they're not as loving as the parent we don't see daily, but they're responsible for you all the time.

Sam

Dear Sam,

My best friend is mad at me and I don't know why. She said she was- not mad at me but I know she is.She also said that one night when she waited after school a while with me that she got into trouble with her parents. Do you think she is a good friend or not?What should I do?Should I remain friends with her?

Deeply troubled

Dear d.t.,

Best friends are hard to come by but almost everyone has one. Like me, I have a best friend. My best friend is kind, sweet and a great person. I love her. But we fight and we argue and turn our backs on each other at times. I will always keep her. She's special to me and I think you shouldn't give up some- thing like that.

Dear Sam,

There's a boy named Mike who is really cute. I went with him before with a nother girl. I still love him but I broke up. I want to go with him again but he is going with another girl. What should I do?

Heartbroken

Dear Heart,

There is not much I can say but he probably still loves you too deep down. I'm sure that he would like you again if you just let him know and have a talk with him, Good luck.

Dear Sam,

There is a boy I really like a lot but there are a few slight prob- lems. One is that there are some other girls who like him too. The other problem is that I don'tknow if he notices me at all. What should I do?

In need of help!

Dear I.n.o.h.,

Fonr one thing, let him know you're alive. Lend him a pen- cil, say hi to him. Rhen let him know you think he is really cute and that you like him. Good luck.

DearSam,

I like this boy in my grade. What sh should I do?

Pitiful

Dear P.,

See p. 6

Dear Sam.... continues...

Dear P.,
We get a lot of questions concerning boys but I can tell you that you should write him. Don't be shy. Don't wait for him to make the first move. He may want to be friends, he may want to go with you, or may not care at all. You won't know unless you take a chance. Do it . It will make you feel better. P.S. Stop seeing yourself as pitiful... that is not a positive way to look at yourself.

DEar Sam,
I'm having trouble with my friend. Sometimes I just get so mad at her I feel like hitting her. We are really different. We are not like most friends. Most friends can tell secrets and very personal things. I cant' but I feel like my friendship with her isn't go ing to last much longer.
Sad and almost friend less

Dear S. and almost...
Just tell her that you are sick of the way she is acting. Have a talk with her. Most of all don't hit her. It will make your friendship worse. Besides fighting is NOT the answer. If you have anymore problems ,write and tell me.

Paddles & Racquets

Involved with the paddleball season are Christy Olsen, Angela Scotese, Brian Bly, Bill Krumrei, Chester Dillenbeck, Joe Pacula, Chris Frank, Jeremy Brautigam, Marc Nelson, Dan Fuller, Mike Makowski, Matt Forster and Will Engle.

Playing racquetball are Jim Karban, Fred Frimand, Kellie Porth, Laura Morrison, Mike Cox, Mike Makowski, Tim Bannister, Marc Nelson, Chris Frank and Brad Picardat.

The play on FRiday nights at 2:30.

8th grade band concert was held Tuesday night at 7:00. The songs the 8th grade played included Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer, Christmas Trio, March Staccato, and Fum Fum Fum.

v.a.

Meeting Indiana Santa

One day in fifth grade my friend and I were sliding on the ice on Bunny Rabbit pond which is near Beatle forestwhen we saw some thing move in the bushes. We assumed it was a rabbit because that forest is famous for its bunny rabbits. We thought it would be fun to catch a rabbit so we chased it through the woods.

After quite a chase we chased him into a cave where he turned on us an pulled a gun from behind his back. It was a Gamma gun. He shot us with gamma rays and we were paralyzed.

Just when we had given up all hope of surviving the tyranny of that rabbit , Indiana Santa and his sidekick Danno the elf appeared.

They simultaneously pulled out their guns while Santa yelled," Book 'em, Danno !"

Danno slapped the hand cuffs on the rabbit and took the gamma gun away. Santa shot us with the ungamma gun and we could move again.

We asked SAnta what he was doing away from the North Pole. He told us Mrs. C. was a real nag and he took DAnno , his favorite elf, to Hawaii last week. This week they had decided to be do-gooders.

So far, they had done nothing the human race except save us from the rabbit. The rabbit's name was Rabitor and he was part of an international spy ring . He had mistaken us for enemy agents. Santa had heard he was in the area and found us just in time.

Soon Santa and Danno left and we returned to the pond. Still I have never forgotten my meeting that day with Indiana Santa and his sidekick, Danno.

cb/mk

GRAMMAR ROCK?

NOUN NEWS

The following are work from Mrs. Kovach's classes. They had to fill in the blanks with the appropriate nouns or adjectives.

We were in the toaster room when the massacre occurred. WE were frightened by the Toastman and the Butterman . Finally, a knife advised us to try to cut the butter. By the time we reached the butter, we were so exhausted we headed for the plate. But we never could forget the Butterman and the terrifying toast adventure.

Scott Bielski

Adjective Action

The group explored the tropical section. They saw the towering trees and dewey bushes. Very often they had a terrible time getting through the immense jungle. On several occasions they almost gave up. But they were rewarded for the stupendous effort they put forth. During the exhausting trek through the jungle, the party discovered many kinds of animals. A ferocious parrot particularly amused them. They were admiring the bird when a rainbow-olored jaguar walked out of the undergrowth. Immediately the tropical animals began to make high pitched noises and wasted much time getting out of the fierce cat's way.

t. Millek

FAVORITE Christmas Songs

What are your favorite Christmas songs?

Mike Cox, Jerry Wiley, Mark Bredi kis, Schenli Oliver, Brett Baney, Kris Nelson, Kim Zachariaa, whose favorite version is by the Chipmunks all like "Jingle Bells."

"Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" was the big favorite of Doug Brucher Brett Herwick, Susan Shannon, Michelle King, who lieks it because he doesnt get to play football, Joe Freddy who thinks it really rocks and Kathy Lucas, Kim Baran, Lisa Kowalski, and Wiley Stanley who also like the tv special of it.

John Roberts'favorite song is "Scrooge is a Scroungy man." Virginia Bowers also likes that one.

Shelly Zack likes "Grandma got run over by a reindeer" because it is so stupid it's funny. Scott Buchana likes that one too. Kevin Boley likes it too .

Amy Soule, Jessica Kyriasis and several others likes"Silent Night."

Paul Langone's favorite is Bob and Doug McKenzie's "12 Days of Christmas."

TV CHRISTMAS SHOWS

Favorite tv specials was also the topic of an opinion poll.

Jennifer Barnett likes A Christmas Carol because she"likes Scrooge." Jill Machen likes Snoopy's Christmas special because " he is funny and cool." Jenny Lee's favorite is "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever." Julie Labadie likes "Frosty the Snowman," as does Brandi Sheler. She thinks it "is sad."

Troy Barnett's favorite is "Rudolph". Jenny Burrows always enjoys How the Grinch Stole Christmas. "The Gricnh is cute." Cherie Dingman and Dawn Flanders both like Christmas CArol becusue it teaches a lesson and it's a neat movie.

Edna Tovias' favorite is the Charlie Brown special. (must be the same one that Snoopy's in.) Edna likes it "because I couldnt think of another one." Sean Taylor likes "garfield's Christmas."

Gigi Morrison enjoys "The Bob Hope Christmas Special" because "it beats the Smurfs." Jody Hollenbeck likes "The Berenstain Bears." Tawi Moore and Tess Sullivan enjoy Buggs Bunny. Shelly Zach likes "The Chipmunks Special " because the "chipmunks are all so cute."

Colleen Bos loves "The grinch's dog" which is why her favorite is the The Grinch Stole Christmas.